



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program

### Regulations Governing Industrial and Commercial Facilities

When it rains or when water flows from private properties, it flows directly into the storm water conveyance system. Many mistakenly believe this water gets treated before reaching waterways. The sewer system and the storm water conveyance system are separate; they are not connected. Sewer water gets treated, but everything that washes into a storm water conveyance system goes untreated directly into our rivers, creeks, bays and ocean.

**As a business owner, you are required by local and state regulations to prevent the discharge of harmful pollutants into the City of San Diego's storm water conveyance system.**

#### City Ordinance Requirements

Allowing contaminated urban runoff or other pollutants to enter the storm water conveyance system is a violation of San Diego Municipal Code §43.0304. Because a number of commercial and industrial activities have the potential to contribute pollutants to the storm water conveyance system, the use of appropriate storm water best management practices (BMPs) is required whether or not a facility is subject to the State's General Industrial Permit.

To assist you in determining the most appropriate BMPs for your facility, refer to the California Stormwater Quality Association's (CASQA) Stormwater Best Management Practice Handbook for Industrial and Commercial Activities. An electronic copy of this handbook can be downloaded from [www.cabmphandbooks.org](http://www.cabmphandbooks.org). To order a hard copy, contact CASQA at [www.casqa.org](http://www.casqa.org).

#### State Permit Requirements

State storm water regulations require facilities that conduct industrial activities (e.g. manufacturing facilities, mining operations, disposal sites, recycling yards, transportation facilities, etc.) within California to obtain a **State General Industrial Permit**. This permit and additional information can be found at [www.swrcb.ca.gov/stormwtr/industrial.html](http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/stormwtr/industrial.html). If an industrial facility is subject to this permit, the facility operator must file a Notice of Intent (NOI) with the State Water Resources Control Board, pay an annual fee, and comply with specific permit requirements including implementation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan. If your facility is subject to the State General Industrial Permit but all materials and activities are protected by a storm resistant shelter to prevent exposure to precipitation and/or runoff, you may submit a No Exposure Certification (NEC) to the State Water Resources Control Board.

To determine if your facility is subject to the State General Industrial Permit, identify your facilities' activities and associated Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code and then refer to the list of regulated SIC codes on the SWRCB Industrial Program website at the address above, or contact the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) at (858) 467-2952 and ask for the Industrial Program.

**Other fact Sheets that may pertain to your activities: *Be A Clean Water Leader: Control, Contain & Capture; Spills; and Restaurants.***

Adopt these behaviors and help Clean up our beaches and bays.

**Think Blue**, San Diego. For more information, call (619) 235-1000, or log on to: [www.thinkbluesd.org](http://www.thinkbluesd.org)

**Think  
&  
Act  
Blue**

